

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-11 AID-05 SSM-03 /078 W

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R 031210Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7169

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 1210

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,JO,EG,SY

SUBJ: JORDANIAN PRESS REACTION TO SADAT KUWAIT PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: KUWAIT 1030; CAIRO 2734

1.JORDANIAN DAILES WHICH MOST CLOSELY REFLECT
GOJ LINE (AR-RAYY,AD-DUSTOUR) MARCH 2 PUBLISHED
EDITORIALS COMMENTING APPROVINGLY ON SADAT REMAKRS
IN KUWAIT PRESS CONFERENCE THAT EGHPT WOULD COME TO
SYRIA'S AID IN CASE OF ISRAELI ATTACK (REFTELS). AD-DUSTOUR:
"SADAT'SPLEDGE (TO AID SYRIA SHOULD IT BE ATTACKED)
DEMONSTRATES THAT DESPITE THE SINAI AGREEMENT, EGYPT
HAS NOT ABANDONED ITS NATIONAL OBLIGATIONS TO FIGHT
THE COMMON ENEMY. THIS PLEDGE THUS REPRESENTS A BRIDGE
AGAIN LINKING CAIRO AND DAMASCUS. IT IS IN THE
HIGHEST INTEREST OF THE ARABS TO ENCOURAGE ANY
POSITIVE INITIATIVE AIMED AT RESTORING NORMAL
RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT."

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2. ALTHOUGH EDITORIALS IGNORE SADAT'S IMPLIED CRITICISM OF SYRIAN-JORDANIAN RAPPROCHEMENT (CONCOCTIONS") THEY MANAGE TO INCLUDE POINTED SUGGESTION THAT ECONOMIC AID TO ARAB BROGHERS SHOULD INCLUDE ALL THE CONFRONTATION STATES. AR-RAYY GOES FURTHER TO OBSERVE SOMEWHAT CRITICALLY, "THERE IS A GENERAL ARAB CONSENSUS THAT ARAB SUPPORT TO EGYPT IS THE ONLY GUARANTEE OF PROTECTING EGYPT FROM INTERNATIONAL BLACKMAIL. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS AN UNHEALTHY SIGN TO SEE SOME EGYPTIAN PAPERS FOLLOW SADAT'S TRIP WITH TALK ABOUT HOW EGYPT BECAME POOR DUE TO INTS INVOLVEMENT IN ARAB WARS. SUCH TALK... SHOWS THAT THERE ARE PLANS TO DIVIDE EGYPT FROM ITS ARAB BROTHERS IN ORDER (TO FORCE IT TO DEPEND ON) AMERICAN WHEAT.... THE WHOLE WORLD IS SEEKING WAYS TO APPROACH THE ARABS, BUT SOME ELEMENTS ARE TRYING TO KEEP EGYPT SEPARATE FROM THE ARABS AT A TIME IN WHICH IT FORMS AN INSEPARABLE PART OF THE ARAB NATION."

3. COMMENT: IN SPITE OF CURRENT BAD BLOOD BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND JORDANIAN REGIMES,GOJ IS LOOKING FOR A GESTURE FROM SADAT THAT WILL ALLOW IT TO BEGIN TO PATCH UP DIFFERENCES, FOR REASONS BOTH OF BILATERAL AND ARAB UNITY SIGNIFICANCE. WE ASSUME THAT WHILE SUBJECT WAS NOT MENTIONED EDITORIALY IN LOCAL PRESS, JORDANIANS WHO IN THE MAIN WANT TO AVOID WAR MUST BE QUIETLY PLEASED THAT SADAT WARNED SYRIANS THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO GO IT ALONE IF THEY ENGAGE IN ADVENTURISM ON GOLAN.
PICKERING

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